

Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council

(est. Oct. 14, 2007)

Newsletter

October 2016



Council News

At our last meeting we had a chance to read an application for Lisa to join our extended family. Lisa has been attending as a guest off & on for approx. 3 years. Her application will be read and voted upon at this meeting. Come out, voice your opinion and vote.

At present time we have contacted 3 separate organizations to line up our fall/winter Socials. Hopefully we will have the dates/location in stone by the Oct meeting.

On Sat Sept 17th, we were happy to be invited to drum/sing and offer our mixed Native culture to the public at "A Country Day at Pardon Gray" preserve in Tiverton (pic below). It was a great day and we had a chance to speak with many people.



After the event we had a surprise birthday party for Dreams of Wolves at our favorite place; Yumi's Garden. Yes, she was surprised.

Our annual "Healing of the Water" ceremony is Sat Oct 15th (with a rain date of Sun Oct 16th) -----> All are invited to attend. Feel free to invite your friends. Hopefully to add to the ceremony, I will be ready to offer Anna her Native name.

Our prayers go out to all of our extended family members who are sick, ill, or injured. If you know of a member, or friend, of this Council, who is sick or in the hospital, please let us know ASAP.

Drum practices have been every Thursday at 6:00. If anyone wishes to come and join us at the drum, or even just to enjoy the friendship, the door is always open..

See you at the next meeting: Sunday Oct 2

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Healing of the Water ceremony, Naming ceremony and Pipe ceremony

Saturday, Oct 15, 2016

**** (rain date Sun Oct 16) ****

@ Founders Brook Park
Old Boyd's Lane, Portsmouth RI

Ceremony to start at 12:00

Smudging starts at 11:30

Followed by a Pot Luck late lunch & dancing
@ 222 Middle Rd Portsmouth
(please bring something to share)

Natives: Regalia please
Non-natives: Casual

R.S.V.P.: on or before 10/8
(Or for information)
Don or Barbara Sly

{3 Horses or Dreams of Wolves}
401-683-4589

On the lighter side:



Spiritually Speaking

The first peace, which is the most important, is that which comes within the souls of people when they realize their relationship, their oneness, with the universe and all its powers, and when they realize that at the center of the universe dwells Wakan-Tanka (the Great Spirit), and that this center is really everywhere, it is within each of us.

This is the real peace, and the others are but reflections of this. The second peace is that which is made between 2 individuals, and the 3rd is that which is made between 2 nations. But above all you should understand that there can never be peace between nations until there is known that true peace, which, as I have often said, is within the souls of men.

Black Elk - Oglala Sioux



The white people, who are trying to make us over into their image, they want us to be what they call "assimilated," bringing the Indians into the mainstream and destroying our own way of life and our own cultural patterns. They believe we should be contented like those whose concept of happiness is materialistic and greedy, which is very different from our way.

We want freedom from the white man rather than to be integrated. We don't want any part of the establishment, we want to be free to raise our children in our religion, in our ways, to be able to hunt and fish and live in peace. We don't want power, we don't want to be congressmen, or bankers....we want to be ourselves. We want to have our heritage, because we are the owners of this land and because we belong here.

The white man says, there is freedom and justice for all. We have had "freedom and justice," and that is why we have been almost exterminated. We shall not forget this.

Tecumseh – Shawnee

Upcoming Events:

Sun Oct 2
Aquidneck Indian Council's Monthly
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

Sun Oct 9
Drumming and Blessing
Tiverton Rod & Gun Club, Fish Road Tiverton RI
9:00 - ?

Sat Oct 15
(Rain date: Sun Oct 16)
Healing of the Water Ceremony
Founders Brook, Old Boyds Lane Portsmouth
401-683-4589 12:00 - ?

Sun Nov 6
Aquidneck Indian Council's Monthly
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

** Above is not a complete list of all events happening in our area, just a highlight. For a full list of Native happenings, check the pow-wow schedule on the Wandering Bull's website.

If any doubt, call before you head out to an event to verify location and dates/times.

Many Horses - Oglala Sioux



I will follow the white man's trail. I will make him my friend, but I will not bend my back to his burdens. I will be cunning as a coyote. I will ask him to help me understand his ways; then I will prepare the way for my children. Maybe they will outrun the white man in his own shoes.

There are but two ways for us. One leads to hunger and death, the other leads to where the poor white man lives. Beyond is the happy hunting ground where the white man cannot go.

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Preserving the Island's open spaces and natural character for the lasting benefit of our community.

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or

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Sunday Services: June thru August - 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM
Sept. thru May - 10:00 AM to 11:30 with fellowship to follow.
Check out their FB page: First Spiritualist Church of Brockton

For info on either the Wig Wam or Church of Brockton,
Contact: Rev Patti Craig
1-508-436-3105 evroty@aol.com

Native Teachings:

NATIVE AMERICAN LEGENDS

by Beverly Morningstar

Introduction:

This teaching is to help others gain understanding of the spiritual relationship of Native Americans to the animals in their environment. Native Americans had many myths and legends regarding their animals that they had to share the land with. They watch the animals closer for many signs and taught their young people to do the same. They showed great respect for all living things and by doing so learned many valuable lessons from the environment and its insect, plants and animal life.

It was through storytelling that many of these legends and myths were revealed. They would sit by their fires on a cold winter's night with the wind howling and the snow blowing outside their homes. It was a perfect setting for the elders to teach the young ones. The elders were the guardians of traditional teachings, sorting information or details for the young people to pass down from generation to generations. They would tell stories about creation, spiritual growth, and the mysteries of the animal kingdoms. All the while during their teachings they would advise them on conservation and preservation of the land as they were to be good stewards of it.

Remember that legends were hand down from generation to generation to help the younger ones understand many things about life. It is much like the stories that we were told about our own ancestors. Each nation/tribe held on to their own legends/myths as it was their way of explaining why things happened the way they did.

From the Seneca Nation comes the story of the Thunder Beings who lived under the great falls called Ne-ah-ga. The story as follows: one day a young woman, alone in her canoe, was crossing the river far from the falls when she lost her paddle. The current swiftly and swept it and her away. This young woman had always been friends with the Thunder Beings, giving them gifts every new season. As she was carried away she did not cry out she asked for help and trusted that somehow she would be saved. The Thunder Beings caught her in a blanket saving her life. The chief of the Thunder Beings then asked this young woman to be his wife she accepted. This is one legend that is still being told today by the Seneca Nation. That when one hears the voices of Thunder Beings roll across the sky, the brave young woman is keeping watch, and reminding us that for every gift we give it gives us back a blessing.



Conclusion:

The lesson this legend teaches us is to be kind to one another and to be a giver not a taker. One is always blessed when they give to others from their hearts and not their egos. Respect and honor is to be shown at all times to others is the way of the Native American People and our Ancestors. A'HO

Native Teaching: The Story of the Drum

Narrated by: 3 Horses



An Abenaki Legend

It is said that when Creator was giving a place for all the spirits to dwell who would be taking part in the inhabitation of Mother Earth, there came a sound, a loud BOOM, from off in the distance.

As Creator listened, the sound kept coming closer and closer until it was finally right in front of Him. “Who are you?” asked Creator. “I am the spirit of the drum”, was the reply. “I have come here to ask you to allow me to take part in this wonderful thing.” “How will you take part?” Creator questioned. “I would like to accompany the singing of the people. When they sing from their hearts, I will sing as though I was the heartbeat of Mother Earth. In that way, all creation will sing in harmony.” Creator granted the request, and from then on, the drum accompanied the people’s voices.

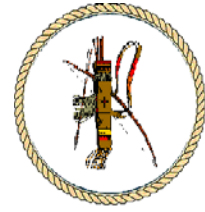
Throughout all of the indigenous peoples of the world, the drum is the center of all songs. It is the catalyst for the spirit of the songs to rise up to the Creator so that the prayers in those songs reach where they were meant to go. At all times, the sound of the drum brings completeness, awe, excitement, solemnity, strength, courage and the fulfillment to the songs. It is Mother’s heartbeat giving her approval to those living upon her. It draws the eagle to it, who then carries the message to Creator.

It changes people’s lives....





A.I.I.I.C.



You are invited to join us at the:

Healing of the Water ceremony

Naming ceremony and Pipe ceremony

(Healing of the Water is an Ojibwa/Chippewa style ceremony whereby everyone is invited to offer their prayers and blessings upon a certain body of water, {the brook}, for all water to be clean and purified. The prayers then flow over Mother Earth and touch every other body of water that this brook is connected to.)

Hosted by: THE **AQUIDNECK INDIAN COUNCIL**

Saturday, Oct 15, 2016

** (rain date Sun Oct 16) **

@ Founders Brook Park

Old Boyd's Lane, Portsmouth RI

{Call for directions}

Ceremony to start at 12:00

Followed by a Pot Luck late lunch & dancing @ 222 Middle Rd Portsmouth
(please bring something to share)

Music performed by *the Soaring Eagle Singers*

Natives: Regalia please

Non-natives: Casual

R.S.V.P.: on or before 10/8

(Or for information)

Don or Barbara Sly

{3 Horses or Dreams of Wolves}

401-683-4589



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Native Recipe

Indian Vegetables



Ingredients:

4 Strips bacon (or bacon grease from approx. 4 slices)	1 lb meat (ground beef, pork, sausage or steak)
2 large onions, sliced	3 cups sliced green & yellow squash
1 cup cubed eggplant	1 cup green beans
1 cup whole baby carrots	1 bell pepper, sliced
½ lb mushrooms	1 can tomato sauce
1 large can red kidney beans	1 large can chick peas
½ cup rice	¼ cup molasses

Instructions:

This dish is best cooked outside over an open fire, in a large skillet, but can be cooked inside on your stove. You can vary the recipe each time by using what you have available. The only vegetable that is not recommended is beets. Corn is a great addition.

Sauté bacon, remove and save. Sauté onions in the bacon grease, add pepper, mushrooms, other vegetables and meat. Cook for 5 minutes. Before adding rest of ingredients, season with parsley, garlic salt, sage, thyme and chili powder. Add balance of ingredients and sauté about 15 minutes.

Delicious served with green salad, corn bread and/or applesauce.

Serves 12

Next meeting:



**** Sunday Oct 2, 1:00**
@ 222 Middle Rd Portsmouth

Guests Always Welcome



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AIIC contact info:

3 Horses Sly Fox (Don Sly), Chairman
Dreams of Wolves (Barbara Sly), Secretary
222 Middle Rd. Portsmouth, RI 02871
401-683-4589

Email: aquidneck_indian@verizon.net
Website: www.aquidneckindiancouncil.org

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For St Joseph’s Indian School
(see *Dreams of Wolves* for a detailed list)



Inspirational:

American Indians share a history rich in diversity, integrity, culture and tradition. It is also rich in tragedy, deceit and genocide. As the world learns of these atrocities and cries out for justice for all people everywhere, no human being should ever have to fear for his or her life because of their political beliefs. We are in this together; the rich, the poor, the red, white, black and yellow. We share responsibility for Mother Earth and those who live and breathe upon her. Never forget that.

Leonard Peltier, Anishinabe and Dakota Sioux

From 3 Horses:

A facebook friend asked me a question the other day, “If you had to give someone a bit of wisdom, what would it be”? Not having to think twice, I told her the adage I’ve learned from trying to stay walking on the Good Red Road, “There are many paths. Creator has set a path before each of us. I must walk my path. You must walk yours. We may walk along side of each other. Our paths cross many times. But, I cannot walk your path, and you cannot walk mine. We must each choose the right path to walk”.

Sometimes it is hard to walk “your” path. Others try to tell you which path is right for you. Others will try to get you to follow “their” path. When in doubt, stop and ask the Great Spirit for guidance. He will show you the right path, even if there are some dips in the road, or stumbling blocks, stay focused and follow the right path, and never be afraid to stumble, it’s a learning experience. You never stop learning till the very end. Even at that, death is a learning experience.

See you along the Good Red Road.

Peace.....

3 Horses & Dreams of Wolves



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